

COSTA BLANCA ANGLO SPANISH ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Meeting on Thursday 19th January 2012 at 2:30 pm in Geoff's Flat

PRESENT Geoff (President) Jan (Vice-President) Val (Treasurer)
 Lorna (Secretary) Terry (Committee Member) John (Committee Member)

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (17th November 2011)

These were proposed by Terry, seconded by John and passed unanimously.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Geoff advised that a Christmas card, together with a case of wine, had been received from Derek and Anne Smith as a kind gesture of thanks for the hard work of the committee. This generosity was very gratefully received by all the committee members.

4. FINANCIAL UPDATE

Val advised that the Income and Expenditure Account for 2011 has been signed off by auditor Mike Granville. She explained that with a surplus of €202 the position is broadly similar to this time last year, and that the Association is in a reasonable financial position. Having brought down the 2012 budget for break-even purposes, she gave Lorna a float of €50.

5. MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The membership level is 80 at present. John advised that two new members, friends of his, will be joining on Monday.

6. EGM AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS

Geoff will e-mail the EGM Agenda and the Programme of Events for 2012 to Lorna, and **Lorna** will arrange for photocopies of these, together with the Income and Expenditure Account and Membership Renewal Forms, to be distributed on the seats at El Rodat before the meeting.

Geoff will order cava, and their respective spouses volunteered Neil Brown and Geoff Hughes to open the bottles for serving during the break.

John will inform the restaurant of the 36 dinner bookings and menu choices and relay the table configuration to Val, and **Val** will prepare the table plan.

Jan and **Lorna** will compile the meetings register. **John** and **Val** will collect the dinner money.

The committee will sit at the front of the room.

Peter Atkinson will make a presentation on events and speakers from 2011 and projections for 2012.

Presentations will be made to Geoff and Val as outgoing committee members, and bottles of wine to Mike Granville, Dodie Hodgkinson and Peter Atkinson for all their sterling work throughout the year.

Geoff will present a brief report on the Association's status and prospects, and what can be done to maximise the attractiveness of future trips, and will explain that in the event of no volunteers coming forward for the two vacant committee positions he would have to propose the winding-up of the Association.

7. AOB

While Geoff reported favourably on the organisation of his recent trip with Beni Connect to Torremolinos, Val reported that the enjoyment of the Association's shopping trip with Beni Connect to Murcia was compromised by the large number of pick ups and the high volume of music on the bus. And while Jan suggested Gandia Tours as an alternative, the consensus was that similar issues would be liable to arise. Jan suggested that all members be asked their preference between availing of trips organised by another company and returning to Association-organised trips which would entail prior recces. Terry commented that it is essentially the same core group of members that tends to go on all the trips now. Most members have by now availed themselves of trips to the conventional destinations within the accessible arc from Jávea, and the identification of popular new destinations is challenging. While Geoff commented that current financial uncertainties are affecting people's decisions, John pointed out that when the price is right the demand can still be counted on, citing sold-out opera and ballet shows.

While in theory a committee member can double-up to act as, say, Vice-President and Treasurer, it is considered that in practice this would impose an excessive workload on any voluntary committee member. By way of contingency planning, Geoff has taken advice from Pacqui of Gestoria Asesoria Font on the ramifications of association wind-up and re-constitution, both of which are straightforward procedures at any time. In the event of a winding-up, the committee would action the process, *gestor* costs would be paid, the bank account would be closed and the residual funds would be donated to a charity such as Caritas.

8. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

Dependant on the formation of a new committee, this will be decided in due course.